

# Custom Builder

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# multigenerational homes



The main house is more Victorian in style than the accompanying cabins, which have a rustic, Texas Hill Country ambience.

## Texas-size family compound

Austin, Texas-based Architects Clayton & Little worked with Wimberley, Texas, builder Grady Burnette to develop a family compound for a couple whose children and grandchildren visit often. The grandparents, who live in a two-story, Texas Hill Country vernacular-style house on 16 acres overlooking the Blanco River, "wanted to provide more amenities for the whole family to enjoy," says architect Emily Little.

Clayton & Little designed a main house that has approximately 3,800 square feet of conditioned space and 1,500 square feet of covered porches. The home has a living room, kitchen, exercise room, library, office, and three bathrooms.

In addition, there are three small cabins, each with a bedroom and bath, that are connected to each other in a 1,700-square-foot structure that steps down the 15-foot slope. The new buildings share a courtyard.

"The cabins are connected by an interior hall," Little says, "but it steps down, so you feel very separate when you're in them. The middle cabin is designed as a bunkhouse for the grandchildren, and their parents stay in the other two cabins."

PHOTO: DROR BALDINGER

## multigenerational homes



Architects Clayton & Little designed the main house with a living room, kitchen, library, exercise room, and office for the use of the clients' children and grandchildren. The second-floor library (shown) is flanked by bookshelves and has a fireplace for chilly weather.

Because flooding has been a serious issue in that area, all of the new structures are located above the 100-year floodplain. They are sited to take advantage both of long-distance views as well as views of the nearby river and the woods.

While the architecture overall is Texas Hill Country, Little says the main house is "a little bit fancier. There's more detailing and it's slightly more Victorian in character, while the cabins are a little more rustic in character."

The new buildings are clad in stone and siding. And, Burnette

says, "There are interior stone walls and wood paneling as well in certain areas."

The compound is actually the family's winter home. Family members stay at another residence they own in Colorado during the summer.

"[Family members] can be on their own if they need to be, but there are also wonderful large areas for them to come together," Little says. "It's a place that has a lot of options. I think for guests, that's always a real bonus." CB

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